

HABS  
DC,  
WASH,  
356-

645 D Street, NW  
(Lincoln Inn Restaurant)  
Washington  
District of Columbia

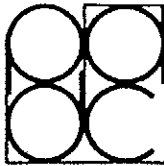
HABS No. DC-614

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

HABS DC-614



PENNSYLVANIA  
AVENUE  
DEVELOPMENT  
CORPORATION

425 13TH STREET, N.W.  
WASHINGTON, DC 20004

GENERAL CONSULTANTS

ANDERSON NOTTER/MARIANI  
GENERAL PRESERVATION & CONSERVATION CONSULTANT

DEVROUX & PURNELL  
ASSOCIATE ARCHITECTS

DAVID McLAREN HART & ASSOCIATES  
PRESERVATION & CONSERVATION CONSULTANT

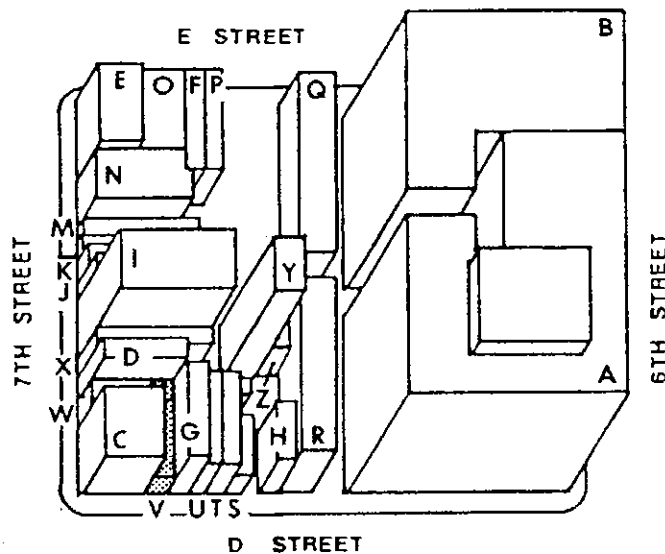
MONK DUNSTONE ASSOCIATES  
COST ESTIMATING CONSULTANT

HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

BUILDING DOCUMENTATION

HABS  
DC,  
WASH,  
356-

645 D Street, NW  
(Lincoln Inn Restaurant)  
Lot 814



This documentation was produced for mitigation purposes by the Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation. Additional documentation exists for Square 457, within which this structure stands. For photographs, historical, and descriptive data on Square 457, see HABS No. DC-597.

## GENERAL DESCRIPTION

This small two-story flat-roofed brick building is located along D Street near its intersection with Seventh Street, at the western end of Square 457. The restaurant, contiguous with larger buildings at the sides and rear, is accessible only from D Street. The facade is flush with those of its neighbors: the Crandell building to the west and a four story commercial structure to the east. The rectangular plan building measures twenty feet in width by one hundred feet in depth and is approximately twenty-seven feet in height.

The majority of activity within the building takes place on the first floor: the basement is merely a crawl space, accessible from the street, while the second floor contains only a shallow dining room behind the facade. The brick party walls at east and west are spanned by wood joists. Brick foundations are evident in the basement. The metal standing seam roof at the rear of the building supports a variety of mechanical equipment and a large gabled skylight over the kitchen.

The simple brick facade, painted black, is marked by the main door offset to the west featuring an elaborate white painted Colonial Revival surround with a broken pediment. Two large horizontal simulated bay windows complete the colonial motif. These flush, square paned windows are capped by shallow projecting mansards. The lower window is located beside the entrance; the upper one is centered at second floor level.

The long and narrow dining area is slightly raised at the rear half. Carpeted in red and wood paneled, it displays numerous photographs and drawings of Lincoln.

## ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

A metal plaque beside the entrance to the Lincoln Inn proclaims the restaurant to be on "the site where Lincoln dined", although this act occurred in an earlier building. The Lincoln is an undistinguished recent example of the Colonial Revival style applied to a commercial structure. The date of the original construction is uncertain.

September 1979



D STREET (SOUTH) FACADE

Lot 7  
639-643 D Street

When originally platted (Bastert, 1872), Lot 7 was a rectangular lot situated in a southwest quadrant of the Square.

1819.....The lot was owned by John R. Plater. No lot or improvement assessment was given in the Records.

1824.....Plater's lot was assessed for \$1204.00.

After this date, the Tax Assessment Records showed a division of Lot 7 into three sublots. These are given individual listings.

Lot 7 West (Sublot 814)  
643 D Street

Sublot 814 (Baist Plat Map 1919) measured approximately 20' x 100', a slender rectangular lot.

1829/33..Michael Flanagan was the owner of the lot. He was assessed \$501.00 for the land, \$1000.00 for building improvements.

1844.....Flanagan's title was transferred to Michael McDermott. \$602.00 was his lot assessment.

1855.....McDermott was listed in the Directories as a coachmaker. Other tenants included Jacob Fleisell, a stonecutter, and Jason Fry, a carpenter.

1859.....\$1907.00 was McDermott's lot assessment. No improvement value was indicated.

1870.....The improvement value on the 'McDermott Estate' was \$1800.00.

1878/79..Now titled to Joseph A. McDermott, the lot was valued at \$3512.00.

1879  
to

1906.....Restaurants predominated in the building during these years. Most often mentioned were Rudolph and Anne Peterson and Adolph Loehl.

1883/84..The owner and tax assessment were unchanged from the 1878/79 record.

1890.....Building Permit #2086, 5/5/1890: One brick building, store and dwelling.

1893/94..McDermott's land assessment had increased to \$4516.00. The improvement assessment was \$2000.00.

1899/

1900.....The land value had decreased slightly to \$4014.00, while the

improvement value remained stable. The owner was still McDermott.

1910.....Building Permit #6333, 5/11/1910: Repair floors. Cost: \$50.00.

1912.....Building Permit #1680, 10/3/1912: Erect brick addition with tin roof. Architect: J.B. Bonneford. Cost: \$310.00.

1912

to

1916.....Rudolph Haenisch continued the tradition of restaurants in the building; he was the owner of a restaurant/saloon during this time.

1917

to

1943.....Long-term restaurant owners were the Thurm brothers, Gus A. and Julius R.

1948

to

1981.....The Jay Grill, Green Tavern, Friendly Tavern, Alcove Inn Restaurant and Lincoln Inn Restaurant have successively occupied the building at 643 D Street (City Directories).

## SOURCES

Baist Real Estate Atlas

Bastert and Enthoffer Plat Maps

Boyd's City Directories

District of Columbia Building Permits

District of Columbia General Assessment Records

District of Columbia Recorder of Deeds

District of Columbia Surveyor's Office Records

District of Columbia Tax Records

Hopkins Real Estate Atlas

Polk's City Directories

Property Map for Downtown Urban Renewal Area for District of Columbia Redevelopment  
Land Agency

Sanborn Insurance Map